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REPORT
OF THE
NOVA SCOTIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOR THE
RELIEF OF THE SUFFERERS
BY THE
FIRE AT ST. JOHN'S,
NEWFOUNDLAND.



HALIFAX, N. S.:
PRINTED BY WM. MACNAB, 3 PRINCE ST.,
1892.



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REPORT.

HALIFAX, N. S., Sept. 5, 1892.

THE following is the report of the Provincial Executive Committee for the relief of the sufferers by the fire at St. John's, Newfoundland, which report was adopted at a meeting of the Committee held this day :—

The first intelligence of the disaster reached Halifax late on Friday evening, July 8th. His Worship the Mayor, who was informed of the calamity about midnight, immediately arranged that notices should be inserted in the city newspapers issued on the following morning, calling a meeting of citizens at his office to take place at 10 o'clock on that (Saturday) morning.

In pursuance of this notice a meeting of citizens was held at the Mayor's office at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning. At this meeting a resolution was adopted appointing Messrs. S. M. Brookfield, Robert Taylor, F. W. Bullock, Robt. Pickford and His Worship the Mayor a committee to purchase and forward to St. John's by steamer, which was to leave Halifax that evening, supplies necessary for immediate relief of sufferers, and the committee were guaranteed a fund of \$4000 for such expenditure. It was also decided at this meeting to call a public meeting of citizens to be held on Monday morning at 10 o'clock, to determine what further steps should be taken to afford help to the sufferers. The meeting then adjourned and the committee just appointed immediately met and decided to purchase and forward by the S. S. Ulunda, which was to sail

on that evening, the following provisions, which were accordingly forwarded by that steamer :

275 barrels of flour.
 50 barrels of pork.
 100 barrels of cornmeal.
 150 barrels of biscuits.
 20 chests tea.
 5 pun. molasses.
 3500 feet of boards.
 Blankets.

His Worship the Mayor, on behalf of the citizens of Halifax, cabled a message of sympathy to the Mayor and citizens of St. John's and informed the Mayor of St. John's that arrangements had been made for forwarding provisions by the "Ulunda," and a message in reply was subsequently received thanking the citizens of Halifax for their kindness and sympathy, and stating that thousands of people at St. John's were actually destitute in consequence of the fire.

On Saturday evening the citizens' committee sent the following despatch to the relief committee at St. John's :

"Ulunda and H. M. S. Blake sailed at 8 o'clock this evening. Blake has canvas and provisions. Also will ship you 100 barrels pork by Portia on Monday. Wire us for anything you urgently need."

In accordance with the resolution adopted at the meeting of citizens on Saturday a public meeting of citizens was held on Monday morning, July 11th, at 10 o'clock, at which hour a very large number of citizens assembled at the City Council Chamber in the City Hall, where the meeting took place. At this meeting Mr. S. M. Brookfield, on behalf of the citizens committee, reported what the committee had done and the report was adopted.

On motion a committee of three citizens from each Ward of the city was appointed to solicit subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers.

On motion, a committee to be called the Provincial Executive Committee was appointed as follows :

ST. JOHN RELIEF FUND.

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

His Honor the Lt.-Governor *Chairman*.

His Worship the Mayor, *Vice-Chairman*.

John Doull (President Bank of N. S.), *Treasurer*.

Ald. W. B. Wallace, *Secretary*.

His Grace the Archbishop,
The Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia,
Hon. W. S. Fielding,
Thos. E. Kenny, M. P.,
Hon. A. G. Jones,
W. J. Stairs,
John Doull,
William Roche,
Dr. Forrest,
Rev. E. B. Moore,

F. D. Corbett,
Mr. Justice Graham,
Michael Dwyer,
Hon. L. E. Baker,
Hon. M. J. Power,
David McPherson,
Robt. Pickford,
F. W. Bullock,
S. M. Brookfield,
Robt. Taylor.

On motion, Mr. John Doull, President of the Bank of Nova Scotia, was appointed Treasurer of the Relief Fund, and it was resolved that a subscription list be immediately opened. A large sum of money was promptly subscribed by citizens present at the meeting.

Immediately after the adjournment of this meeting the Provincial Executive Committee met. Lieut.-Governor Daly was appointed Chairman, His Worship the Mayor Vice-Chairman, and Ald. Wallace Secretary of the Committee.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the first Committee appointed, Messrs. Bullock, Taylor, Brookfield, Pickford, and His Worship the Mayor, remain in office and be a sub-committee for purchasing and shipping articles necessary for the relief of the sufferers.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the Provincial Executive Committee meet every

morning at half-past ten o'clock in the Committee Room of the City Council until further notice.

It was also resolved that copies of the following despatch should be sent to the Mayors of all the towns in the Province:

"Mayor of ————:

The citizens' committee have now full information that two-thirds of the city of St. John's is destroyed by fire and that 15000 people are without shelter, food or clothing. They now propose to charter and despatch a special steamer, Wednesday next, for their assistance. It is contemplated to make this a provincial matter. We ask your co-operation. Please wire us Monday evening a bank credit for the amount we are to spend for your town, or what provisions, clothing, etc., you will forward per said steamer.

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE,
Halifax,"

The following cable was sent by the Lieut.-Governor to the Hon. The Administrator of the Government of Newfoundland:

"Province of Nova Scotia despatches a special steamer to carry aid for the sufferers. Capacity 3000 barrels. Wire at once what we are to fill her with. What will be most suitable for your requirements. Are potatoes required. Kindly inform us who compose the authorized relief committee at St. John's."

A large quantity of goods for the relief of the sufferers was purchased by the committee and shipped in the Portia, which sailed on Monday evening, July 11th.

At the meeting of the committee held on the following day (Tuesday), it was resolved that a special steamer be employed for the purpose of conveying articles purchased for the relief of the sufferers. It was also decided to send the following message to the Relief Committee at St. John's:

"HALIFAX, N. S., July 12, 1892.

CHAIRMAN RELIEF COMMITTEE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND:

Portia sailed last evening at ten o'clock with supplies and articles named in Sir R. Thorburn's cable. Also 100 barrels pork for admin-

istrator. Small bundles of clothing were put in bags, and in the hurry some got mixed with vessel's cargo. Bills of lading and full information by same steamer. How many cooking stoves shall we forward? Any bedding required? Do not be afraid to let us know your requirements. Can you give us the number of the destitute? The province special steamer will follow. Waiting details of further requirements. Hurry.

M. B. DALY,
Chairman Relief Committee, N. S."

The following reply was received to this message:

"Your message as to shipment per Portia was welcome news to sufferers. Bundles will be looked to. Your offer stoves opportune, say 50 for coal. Blankets much needed. Thanks for cheering words.

LITTLE,
President."

And subsequently the following letter was received:

"St. John's, N. F., 14th July, 1892.

CITIZENS' RELIEF COMMITTEE, HALIFAX:

Gentlemen,—I beg to acknowledge the messages exchanged in reference to relief which have been answered by wire already; but I cannot omit thanking your citizens by this the first regular mail for the whole souled manner in which they have contributed to the relief of our destitute people.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT THORBURN,
Vice-President Chamber of Commerce."

In response to the circular sent out by the Provincial Executive Committee, generous contributions in money and goods from almost every section of the Province were either forwarded to the committee or were sent direct to the relief committee at St. John's.

The committee, by resolution published in the city press, asked the pastors of the various churches in the city to take up collections in the churches on a certain Sunday, and collec-

tions were taken for the relief of the sufferers in the following churches of the city :

Church of the Redeemer.....	\$ 30 00
Grove Church (Richmond).....	40 00
St. Peter's Church (Dartmouth).....	53 00
St. Mary's Cathedral.....	182 86
St. Patrick's Church.....	56 70
St. Joseph's Church.....	55 05
First Baptist Church.....	59 05
Charles St. Church Sunday School.....	40 00
St. Luke's Guild.....	33 00
Upper Stewiacke Church.....	21 43

The committee purchased supplies to the value of about \$8000, with which they loaded the steamer "Havana," and they despatched that steamer to St. John's on the sixteenth day of July.

A sum of \$10,000 was contributed by the Dominion Government, which was placed at the disposal of the purchasing committee by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, and was expended in the purchase of articles asked for by the relief committee at St. John's. These goods were shipped by the Government steamer "Newfield."

The committee met daily for some weeks and dealt with a large mass of correspondence and enquiries by telegram.

Appended to this Report is the Report of the Treasurer, Mr. John Doull, by which it appears that the total amount of cash subscribed in this Province and paid over to this committee was \$20,675.02, of which sum the citizens of Halifax contributed \$12,982.05. In addition to the above subscriptions from this Province several of the principal towns of the Province forwarded their contributions direct, which sums largely increased the total contribution from Nova Scotia.

Clothing and supplies were also donated to a very large

value, which articles were also forwarded by this committee.

The total amount expended by the committee for supplies and necessary expenses to date is \$14,437.10, leaving a balance of \$6,237.92 in the hands of the treasurer.

The committee congratulates the subscribers on the very prompt and liberal response made to its appeal.

Acknowledgements are due for the use of the wires of the Western Union Telegraph Company for the free transmission of all messages to and from the committee, a contribution which proved of the greatest assistance. Also to the I. C. R. and Windsor and Annapolis Railway, to the Allen S. S. Co'y.; the Halifax and Liverpool S. S. Co'y; and Messrs. Pickford & Black, for the free transport of goods; to the carriers, stevedores and others who gave valuable and generous aid in the work of the committee.

The whole respectfully submitted.

At this meeting of the Executive Committee, held on September 5th, the Treasurer presented his report, and on motion Mr. James C. Mackintosh and the Secretary, W. B. Wallace, were appointed auditors of the accounts. The Secretary was instructed to have 1000 copies of the report of the committee printed for circulation.

On motion it was resolved that the Relief Committee at St. John's be immediately authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Nova Scotia Fund to the extent of \$6000. A communication to that effect was accordingly sent to the Relief Committee at St. John's. The Treasurer of the fund was also instructed to forward to the Relief Committee at St. John's whatever further balance remained after payment of the bill for printing the report and any other outstanding bills.

W. B. WALLACE,

Secretary Provincial Executive Committee.

HALIFAX, N. S., September 9th, 1892.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

*Total amount received by Treasurer St. John's Relief Fund to date,
Sept. 5, 1892.*

Halifax	\$12,992 05
Counties and Towns.....	7,682 97

	20,675 02
Expenditure	14,437 10

Balance.....\$ 6,237 92

(Sgd.) JOHN DOULL,

Treasurer St. John's Relief Fund.

Examined and found correct to date, Sept. 9, 1892.

J. C. MACKINTOSH, }
W. B. WALLACE, } *Auditors.*

The following is a detailed statement of the amounts received by the Committee from the towns mentioned below :

Weymouth	185 00	Mulgrave	33 25
Middleton	52 00	Dartmouth	449 10
Canning.....	150 00	Port Hawkesbury.....	86 00
Kentville	213 00	Cheticamp.....	20 00
Parrsboro'	155 00	Annapolis	20 00
Port Hood	150 00	Berwick	120 00
Londonderry Iron Mines.	209 00	Arichat	332 33
Kingston	17 25	Bridgetown	226 00
Wolfville	246 00	Pubnico.....	170 00
Digby	400 00	Canso	57 25
Springhill	390 10	Lunenburg	43 25
Springhill Mines	500 00	Sydney and Louisburg	
Guysboro'	122 00	Coal Co.	300 00
Hantsport	266 70	Sydney—J. A. Campbell.	10 00
Commercial Cable Staff,		Oxford.....	16 80
Hazel Hill.....	72 00	Pictou	38 00
Bishop Rogers, Chatham,		Great Village	17 00
N. B.	50 00	Stewiacke: Rev. A. D. Gunn	21 43
St. Peter's	104 20	Belleville.....	10 00
" Canal Staff... ..	32 50	E. Bowser, Kingston ...	10 00
Port LaTour	52 00	Rev. Jas. Daly, Meteghan	60 50
Liverpool	352 00	Halifax Co	69 00
Amherst	500 00	W. C. T. U.	15 00
Shelburne	134 31	St. Peter's Church, Dart-	
Hopewell	129 00	mouth	53 00
Employees Chisholm's			
Mill, Sheet Harbor... ..	32 00		
			\$7682 97

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